

## Message Text

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ORIGIN DHA-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-12 IO-14 ISO-00 SIG-02 AID-05  
L-03 VO-03 INSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 TRSE-00  
SS-15 NSC-05 /084 R

DRAFTED BY D/HA/ORM:GLWARREN,JR:ND  
APPROVED BY D/HA/ORM:JLCARLIN  
EA - MR. BENNETT  
D/HA/ORM - MR. LOWMAN

-----028471 202231Z /62

R 201442Z OCT 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY OSLO  
AMEMBASSY MANILA  
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI  
USMISSION GENEVA  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE  
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR  
AMEMBASSY SEOUL  
AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652: N/A

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TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: UNHCR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND INDOCHINESE  
REFUGEES -

1. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE UNHCR CONCLUDED ITS  
ANNUAL SESSION IN GENEVA ON OCTOBER 13 AND AMONG SEVERAL

CONCLUSIONS APPROVED WITHOUT OBJECTION THE FOLLOWING U.S. SPONSORED RECOMMENDATIONS ON ASSISTANCE TO INDOCHINESE REFUGEES:

-----THE MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - CONCERNED BY THE PLIGHT OF REFUGEES FROM INDOCHINA -

----- (A) EXPRESSED APPRECIATION OF THE EFFORTS OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER IN CARRYING OUT SPECIAL HUMANITARIAN TASKS FOR THE BENEFIT OF REFUGEES FROM INDOCHINA.

----- (B) RECOGNIZED THE NEED FOR CONTINUED HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE PARTICULARLY IN THE AREA OF RESETTLEMENT AND URGED THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO COOPERATE FULLY WITH THE HIGH COMMISSIONER BY EXTENDING SUCH ASSISTANCE.

----- (C) RECALLED THAT THE HIGH COMMISSIONER HAD ISSUED NUMEROUS APPEALS TO GOVERNMENTS OVER THE PAST THREE YEARS FOR HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE IN VARIOUS FORMS.

----- (D) NOTED WITH DEEP SATISFACTION THE INITIATIVES TAKEN BY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL MARITIME CONSULTATIVE ORGANIZATION (IMCO) WHICH RESULTED IN A JOINT APPEAL ISSUED ON 3 OCTOBER 1977 TO SHIP-OWNERS TO RESCUE QUOTE BOAT PEOPLE UNQUOTE FROM INDOCHINA IN DISTRESS ON THE HIGH SEAS.  
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----- (E) URGED THE HIGH COMMISSIONER TO RENEW AND CONTINUE TO STRENGTHEN HIS EFFORTS TO SECURE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND COOPERATION FOR INDOCHINESE REFUGEES IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

----- (1) OBTAINING THE FULL APPLICATION OF EXISTING INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS RELATING TO THE RESCUE OF PERSONS ON THE HIGH SEAS IN THE AREAS WHERE INDOCHINESE REFUGEES ARE LIKELY TO BE LOCATED.

----- (2) SEEKING THE ELIMINATION OF SITUATIONS WHERE PERMISSION TO LAND AT THE FIRST OR EVEN THE SECOND PORT OF CALL IS REFUSED, EITHER TO QUOTE BOAT PEOPLE UNQUOTE OR TO REFUGEES ON MERCHANT SHIPS WHO HAVE BEEN RESCUED AT SEA.

----- (3) SECURING GREATER UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION IN THE GRANTING OF ASYLUM IN AREAS WHERE IT IS FIRST SOUGHT, INCLUDING LIKELY FIRST PORTS OF CALL FOR QUOTE BOAT PEOPLE UNQUOTE.

----- (4) CONTINUING TO SEEK MAXIMUM RESETTLEMENT

OPPORTUNITIES FOR BOTH INDOCHINESE REFUGEES IN THE CAMPS  
IN THAILAND AND FOR THE QUOTE BOAT PEOPLE UNQUOTE.

----- (5) CONTINUING TO BRING TO THE ATTENTION OF GOVERN-  
MENTS AND AGENCIES THE URGENT NEED FOR FINANCIAL AND OTHER  
ASSISTANCE NECESSARY TO PROVIDE A HUMANITARIAN SOLUTION TO  
THE PLIGHT OF INDOCHINESE REFUGEES IN CAMPS IN THAILAND,  
TO MEET RESETTLEMENT EXPENSES AND SETTLEMENT EXPENSES AND  
TO MEET THE COSTS OF TEMPORARY CARE AND MAINTENANCE IN  
AREAS OF FIRST ASYLUM.

2. RECOMMENDATION RECEIVED STRONG SUPPORT FROM CANADA,  
AUSTRALIA AND THE UK AND INFORMAL AND PRIVATE APPROVAL  
FROM FRANCE, BELGIUM, AUSTRIA, THE FRG, NORWAY, DENMARK,  
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THE NETHERLANDS, THE HOLY SEE, SWITZERLAND, VENEZUELA,  
ISRAEL AND NIGERIA; THAILAND, THOUGH AN OBSERVER, GAVE  
ITS ASSENT. RECOMMENDATION WAS APPROVED WITHOUT DEBATE OR  
CHANGE IN U.S. TEXT.

3. THE UNHCR NOW HAS A CLEAR MANDATE FROM HIS GOVERNING  
BOARD TO RENEW AND STRENGTHEN HIS EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF  
INDOCHINESE REFUGEES IN SEVERAL AREAS. OPERATIVE PARA-  
GRAPHS 1-5 OF THE TEXT COVER THESE AREAS. ADDRESSEES  
SHOULD ACCORDINGLY DRAW ON THE TEXT IN ANY DISCUSSION OF  
THE INDOCHINESE REFUGEE PROBLEM WITH HOST GOVERNMENT  
OFFICIALS. IT IS HOPED THEY AS WE WILL BE ASKING UNHCR  
FROM TIME TO TIME WHAT SPECIFIC ACTIONS HIS OFFICE HAS  
TAKEN TO IMPLEMENT THIS RECOMMENDATION OF THE EXECUTIVE  
COMMITTEE. IT IS FURTHER HOPED THAT THEY WILL SUPPORT  
WHEREVER POSSIBLE ANY NEW INITIATIVES TAKEN BY UNHCR.  
PARTICULAR ATTENTION HAS BEEN GIVEN TO THE NEED TO RESCUE  
QUOTE BOAT PEOPLE UNQUOTE AT SEA, TO THE APPLICATION OF  
LIBERAL ASYLUM POLICIES, TO THE NEED FOR MORE RESETTLEMENT  
OPPORTUNITIES AND TO BROADEN THE BASE OF FINANCING UNHCR  
ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ORIGIN DHA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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